

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the paragraph beginning on line 4 and ending on line 28 of page 4, and replace with the following paragraph:

Thus the invention now provides a method for producing a filamentous bacterium showing reduced branching during growth, particularly growth in a liquid medium, comprising providing such a bacterium with the capability of having or expressing heterologous SsgA activity, which activity in *Streptomyces Griseus* is encoded by an *ssgA* gene having the sequence:

C /
1 ATGCGCGAGTCGGTTCAAGCAGAGGTATGATGAGCTCCTCGTCTCCGA
51 GGAGCTCTCGTCCGTATTCCGGTGGAGCTCCGATACGAGGTCGGCGATC
101 CGTATGCCATCCGGATGACGTTCCACCTTCCC GGCGATGCCCTGTGACC
151 TGGCGITCGGCCGCGAGCTGCTGCTGGACGGCTAACAGCCGAGCGG
201 CGACGGCGATGTGCACATCGGCCCGACCGAGCCGAGGGCCTGGAGATG
251 TCCACATCCGGCTCCAGGTGGCGCGGACCGTGCCTGCTGTTCCGGCGGG
301 ACGGCACCGCTGGTGGCGTTCCGACCGGACGGACAAGCTCGTGCCT
351 CGGCCAGGAGCACACGCTGGGTGACTTCGACGGAACCTGGAGGACGCAC
401 TGGGCCGCATCCTCGCCGAGGAGCAGAACGCCGGCTGA (SEQ ID NO: 1).

Please delete the paragraph beginning on line 1 and ending on line 14 of page 20, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Oligonucleotides

primer primer

ssg1 5'

GGCGAATTCGAACAGCTACGTGGCGAAGTCGCCA3'

GGCGAATTCGAACAGCTACGTGGCGAAGTCGCCA3' (SEQ ID NO: 10)

-194/-170

(nucleotides 1-9 are non-homologous, added nucleotides to create an EcoRI site at nucleotides 5-9)

2
C ssg2 5'

GTGGGATCCGTGCTCGCGGCCTGGTCGTCTC 3'

GTGGGATCCGTGCTCGCGGCCTGGTCGTCTC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 11)

+539/+517

(nucleotides 1-9 are non-homologous, added nucleotides to create a BamHI site at nucleotides 4-9)

ssg3 5'

GGGAATTCCATATGCCCGAGTCGGTTCAAGCA 3'

GGGAATTCCATATGCCCGAGTCGGTTCAAGCA 3' (SEQ ID NO: 12)

-30/-10

(nucleotides 1-11 are non-homologous, added nucleotides to create an EcoRI and NdeI sites at nucleotides 3-14)

ssg4 5' CCGGTAGCCGGCGTCTGCTCCTC 3' (SEQ ID NO: 13)

+412/388

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